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VEGETABLE SITUATION

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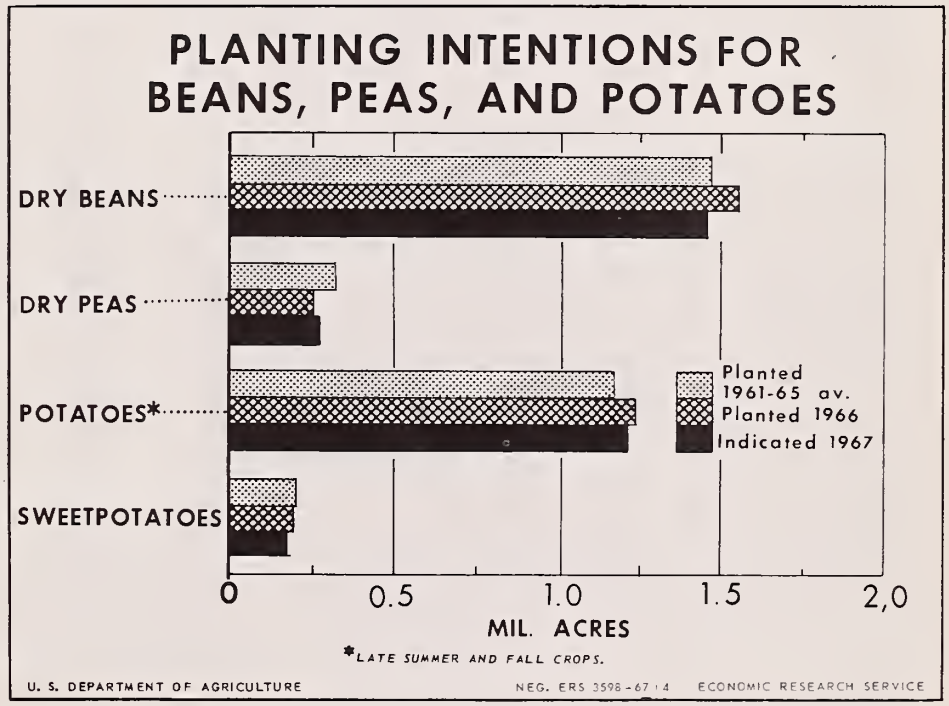
In early March, farmers reported intentions to moderately decrease their acreage of dry beans, partly in response to low prices for the 1966 crop. In contrast, the market for dry peas has been strong this season, and growers indicate plans to plant 4 percent more acres than last year.

Intended acreage of late summer-fall potatoes is down a little from 1966. With average yields, production would be moderately smaller than last year's record, but still above expected market needs.

Farmers plan 6 percent less acreage of sweetpotatoes than in 1966. Under normal conditions, output would be a little below a year earlier, pointing to another season of small supplies and above average prices to growers.



IN THIS ISSUE

Early Supply Prospects for Processed Vegetables, 1967-68

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Table 1.--Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, average 1961-65, 1966 and indicated 1967 1/

Seasonal group and crop	Acreage					Production				
			1967					1967		
	Average 1961-65	1966	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1966	Average 1961-65	1966	Indicated	Percentage of average	Percentage of 1966
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pct.	Pct.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	Pct.	Pct.
Winter 2/	245.7	238.6	248.8	101	104	35,735	36,393	37,211	104	102
Spring:										
Asparagus 2/										
early and mid	80.5	69.7	68.4	85	98	2,388	2,239	2,028	85	91
late	63.4	61.2	61.5	97	100	1,238	1,187	n.a.	--	--
Beans, lima	3.1	2.5	2.3	74	92	74	61	n.a.	--	--
Beans, snap										
early and mid 3/	25.7	25.2	22.4	87	89	460	528	457	99	87
Beets	.5	.3	.3	60	100	44	34	28	64	82
Broccoli 2/4/	12.7	13.6	15.6	123	115	979	1,224	1,248	127	102
Cabbage 2/										
early	12.2	11.8	11.1	91	94	1,725	1,682	1,621	94	96
late	7.3	7.2	7.5	103	104	976	984	n.a.	--	--
Cantaloups	33.5	33.2	33.8	101	102	3,708	3,293	n.a.	--	--
Carrots 2/	2.4	3.0	3.7	154	123	432	600	666	154	111
Cauliflower 2/4/	7.7	8.8	8.4	109	95	702	748	756	108	101
Celery 2/	7.1	8.1	8.2	115	101	3,391	3,582	3,882	114	108
Corn, sweet 4/	40.8	44.7	40.5	99	91	2,960	3,490	3,150	106	90
Cucumbers 4/	11.1	10.4	9.9	89	95	1,090	1,200	998	92	83
Eggplant	1.0	1.0	1.0	100	100	141	171	147	104	86
Lettuce 4/	38.5	44.6	41.4	108	93	7,266	8,400	7,830	108	93
Onions 2/										
early	22.4	16.3	21.5	96	132	2,993	1,548	3,118	104	201
late	7.1	7.0	9.2	130	131	1,863	2,087	n.a.	--	--
Peas, green 4/	2.4	1.2	1.2	50	100	114	42	48	42	114
Peppers, green 2/	7.3	9.3	8.8	121	95	697	903	831	119	92
Shallots	.4	.4	.4	100	100	12	10	10	83	100
Spinach	5.4	5.2	5.2	96	100	335	303	325	97	107
Tomatoes 4/	26.2	23.6	17.7	68	75	3,524	3,870	3,072	87	79
Watermelons										
late	65.9	71.6	65.8	100	92	10,094	11,548	n.a.	--	--
Summer: 5/										
Cabbage 2/										
early	7.6	8.1	8.2	108	101	1,473	1,481	n.a.	--	--
late	17.4	16.6	16.6	95	100	3,507	3,253	n.a.	--	--
Garlic 2/	3.9	3.5	4.4	113	126	408	368	n.a.	--	--
Onions 2/										
early	9.4	12.7	14.1	150	111	2,183	2,935	n.a.	--	--
late	56.6	57.9	59.9	106	103	18,801	18,360	n.a.	--	--
Watermelons										
early	195.0	184.9	179.9	92	97	15,358	14,234	n.a.	--	--
late	30.3	28.9	27.4	90	95	3,812	3,427	n.a.	--	--

1/ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii, which are not divided into seasonal groups.
2/ Includes processing.
3/ Production for early spring only.
4/ Acreage and production for early spring only.
5/ 1967 prospective acreage.
n.a.--not available.
Vegetables-Fresh Market, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, April 21, 1967

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SUMMARY

Production of fresh vegetables this spring is expected to total a little less than last year, but moderately above the 1961-65 average. Among the principal vegetables, smaller supplies than last spring are in prospect for cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, lettuce, tomatoes, and peppers. However, only tomatoes are expected to be in light supply. The spring onion crop is much larger than last year, and above average. Relatively large output is indicated for celery, broccoli, cauliflower, and spinach.

Marketings of spring vegetables will be at a seasonal peak during May and June. With supplies of many items smaller, prices are expected to average slightly above year earlier levels.

Current supplies of frozen vegetables are substantially larger than a year earlier, but remaining canned stocks are relatively light. Markets for processed vegetables are strong, with prices generally the highest in many years. Intentions reports indicate large acreage increases for most processing vegetables this year. The prospective total acreage, assuming average yields and expected carryovers, would result in an aggregate canned vegetable supply for the 1967/68 marketing season substantially larger than this season. Frozen vegetable supplies would be up moderately.

Output of spring-crop potatoes is expected to be down materially from the large production in 1966. However, supplies of old-crop potatoes are relatively large, demand is weaker, and markets are under pressure. Prices continue sharply below the high levels of a year earlier.

Potato growers reported intentions to plant slightly less acreage for 1967 summer and fall harvest than last year. The intended acreage, with average yields, would result in a supply above prospective market needs.

Growers in early March reported intentions to plant 6 percent fewer acres to sweetpotatoes than last year. If average yields are realized, output on the intended acreage would be a little below the small production in 1966.

Supplies of dry edible beans continue much larger than a year earlier. Markets are under pressure, with prices sharply below year earlier levels. Intentions reports indicate farmers plan to reduce acreage 7 percent this year. The prospective acreage, with average yields

and expected carryover, would result in a supply for the 1967/68 marketing season close to the large supply available this season.

Supplies of dry peas are much smaller than a year ago, export demand is strong, and prices are relatively high. Farmers plan a 4 percent increase in acreage this year. With average yields, production would be up substantially over 1966. But since a light carryover appears likely, total supplies next season would be smaller than in the current season.

COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES FOR FRESH MARKET

Winter Supplies Large; Prices Low

Fresh market vegetable acreage was increased last winter, growing conditions were much more favorable, and production of most items was up considerably. Markets were often under pressure, and prices for winter fresh vegetables averaged sharply below the near record levels of a year earlier.

Spring Supplies Down Slightly From a Year Ago

Supplies of fresh vegetables this spring are expected to be a little smaller than last spring but moderately above the 1961-65 average. Total production of 19 vegetables (which usually provide three-fourths of spring vegetable tonnage) is down 1 percent from last spring. Although prospective supplies of many items are smaller than a year ago, only early-spring tomato production is expected to be particularly light. Spring production of lettuce, sweet corn, and green peppers may be considerably less than the excessive output of a year ago, but the supply of each is much above average.

Among other leading vegetables, reduced supplies also are indicated for snap beans, cabbage, and cucumbers. But estimated supplies of broccoli and cauliflower are up slightly, and a substantial increase is likely for celery. Because of more acreage for harvest and better yields, spring onion supplies are up sharply from a year ago and may be record large. Spring cantaloup acreage is about the same as in 1966, but plantings of watermelons are down.

The development of spring vegetables in the major producing areas has been hampered somewhat by unfavorable weather. Florida's spring crops were damaged and delayed by a freeze in late February; drought and strong winds affected vegetables during April. Excessive rainfall has been a problem in California, while a lack of moisture has caused some concern in the Southeast. Despite these difficulties, harvest activity is increasing, and seasonally large supplies are in prospect during May and June. However, with indicated production of many vegetables smaller than in the spring of 1966, prices are expected to average slightly above year-earlier levels.

Growers have reported intentions to plant a little more cabbage for summer harvest, and moderately more onions. Prospective acreage of summer watermelons is smaller.

Prospects for Leading Fresh Vegetables

Cabbage-- Prospective supplies of cabbage this spring appear to be moderately smaller than those available last spring. Remaining supplies of winter-crop cabbage probably are a little smaller than a year ago, and indicated total early-spring tonnage is down 4 percent. Cabbage crops in the Southeast (typically accounting for three-fifths of the total early-spring production) generally are smaller than in 1966. Expected yields in most States are close to those of last year, but acreages are smaller. California's early-spring crop, marketed mostly in Pacific Coast States, is up 7 percent due to more acreage. Producers of cabbage for late spring harvest have 3 percent more acres than last year. But with recent average yields, late-spring tonnage would be about the same as in 1966.

Florida and Texas (which usually account for 75 to 80 percent of the cabbage moving into eastern and midwestern markets during April) grew a little less

cabbage this year than last. In addition, marketing data indicate that the volume harvested during the winter of 1967 was substantially above that of a year earlier. As a result, marketings during April were below those of a year earlier and prices averaged a little higher. Spring crop States will be harvesting in seasonally large volume during May and June. Additional supplies will be available during June from early-summer States where growers plan a slight increase in acreage. With normal weather, production would be up moderately. Overall, prices during the next 6 to 8 weeks are expected to average about the same as the moderate prices of a year earlier.

Producers of cabbage for late summer harvest intend to have about the same acreage as last year. Assuming growing conditions will be better than in 1966, output would be up slightly.

Carrots-- Production of winter season carrots is slightly smaller than last year. The decline reflects prospects for substantially fewer carrots in California, where both acreage and yields are down from 1966. Tonnage in Texas is 9 percent larger than the short crop harvested last year, though still materially below the 1961-65 average. With supplies in Texas (the dominant winter market factor) up considerably, prices through the winter were sharply below the high prices of a year earlier. However, as Texas harvests declined during April, markets strengthened. In mid-month, prices f.o.b. south Texas shipping points averaged $2.25 per 48 one-pound-film bags--still below a year earlier but well above average for that time of year.

Although Texas will furnish seasonally declining supplies for several more weeks, the desert valley producing areas of the Southwest will account for the bulk of the late spring supply. Movement out of California's Imperial Valley is heavy in May, while Arizona's harvest peaks in June. Although production in Arizona is substantially above last year because of more acreage, California tonnage is down. With total supplies probably about the same as in 1966, prices are expected to average close to those of last spring.

Celery-- Supplies of celery have been heavy so far this year. Mainly due to expanded output in California, total winter production was materially above average, and some quantities were not harvested because of depressed market conditions.

Early reports indicate total spring crop tonnage will be substantially larger than last year and the recent 5 year average. Growers in Florida have slightly more acres for spring harvest, yield prospects are much better than in 1966 when low temperatures were a problem, and expected output is up 13 percent. California's spring acreage is the same as in 1966. But yields may be up, leading to a 4 percent larger production.

Prices for winter-crop celery averaged sharply below year earlier levels, and with prospective large spring supplies, markets continue under pressure. Prices f.o.b. Florida shipping points averaged $2.05 per crate during the week ended April 15, compared with $2.12 a year earlier. Prices in southern California were considerably above the low prices in April 1966, as wet weather curtailed harvests. However, since large supplies of celery will be available in both States through the spring, prices likely will average relatively low.

Lettuce-- Acreage for harvest during the winter of 1967 was increased materially following a year of large production and exceptionally high prices for winter lettuce. Production was record large, and resulted in severely depressed markets. Cutting often was restricted and some fields abandoned because of distress prices. However, conditions improved materially as marketing activity shifted to the spring crop areas.

Prospective supplies of spring lettuce are moderately smaller than last year's burdensome supply, but are above average. Early-spring production in Arizona is down 5 percent from a year ago,

with a sharp cut in acreage offsetting prospects for higher yields. The State's expected tonnage is the smallest in a decade. California growers have a little less acreage than in 1966, yields may be lower due to wet weather, and indicated tonnage is off 16 percent. Reduced output also is likely in North Carolina. But producers in New Mexico boosted acreage this year, and prospective production is up sharply.

With Arizona the main source of supply during April, markets were strong. F.o.b. prices at central Arizona shipping points averaged $4.22 per carton during the week ended April 15 compared with $3.65 a year earlier. Increased supplies are in prospect during May as the California and New Mexico harvest reach their usual seasonal peaks. Since combined production in these areas is sharply above average, prices likely will again average relatively low.

Sweet Corn-- Supplies of spring sweet corn are expected to be down substantially from last year, but are moderately above the 1961-65 average. Growers in both Florida and Texas reduced acreage this year, and total early-spring output probably will be a tenth smaller than in 1966.

Harvest in both states is increasing. Peak seasonal supplies are due by mid-May, with marketings continuing into early summer. With production down and prospects for reduced harvest overlap this year, prices are expected to remain above year earlier levels through the spring.

Onions-- Prospective supplies of onions this spring are much larger than the short supplies of last spring, and may prove to be record large. Mainly because of better weather, both acreage for harvest and yields of early-spring onions in south Texas are considerably above a year ago. Indicated production is about double that of 1966 when excessive rains caused heavy losses, and is 4 percent above average.

Shipments of onions out of Texas were above normal during March. However, because of limited competition with an exceptionally small storage supply, prices averaged high. Markets weakened in April as new crop harvests gained momentum, and by mid-month, prices were sharply below the high levels of a year earlier, though still moderate. Some pressure on markets appears likely in coming weeks as early-spring crop volume remains large through May, and harvests in late-spring crop areas become active by mid-May.

The acreage of onions for late spring harvest is nearly a third larger than in 1966. Most of the increase is due to sharp acreage expansions in California and Arizona (where 90 percent of the crop is grown). Producers in Texas and North Carolina report the same acreage this year as last. The larger total acreage, with recent average yields, would result in a 1967 tonnage sharply above that in 1966.

Increasing supplies of onions also will be marketed during June from early-summer crop States, where growers have reported plans for 11 percent more acres than last year. With average yields, output on the intended acreage would be a record--substantially above that in 1966. Producers of onions for late summer harvest have indicated intentions for 3 percent more acres, with increases in the West more than offsetting decreases in other areas. Projected late-summer production is up substantially over 1966. If the spring and summer onion supply prospects materialize, prices for 1967 crop onions likely will be under pressure in coming months, averaging sharply below those of a year earlier.

Tomatoes-- Winter tomato production was moderately smaller this year than last. But bad weather disrupted harvest schedules this year, marketings were particularly large during the latter portion of the season, and prices averaged considerably lower than a year earlier.

Timing of spring crop harvests also has been affected by weather. But the impact on prices likely will be much less severe, since prospective supplies are small. Total early-spring output is expected to be about a fifth less than in

1966 and materially less than the 1961-65 average. Most of the decline from last year is in Florida, where spring acreage is sharply below that harvested in 1966. Production in California is expected to be 17 percent smaller this year; although yield prospects are favorable, spring-crop acreage continues to trend down. Fresh tomato production is also declining rapidly in Texas, where spring acreage this year is only a fourth of the recent average.

Prices were relatively high during April as a result of reduced shipments out of Florida. Harvests in all early spring states are increasing, with seasonally large volume expected during May. But with production well below that of last spring, prices probably will average at least moderately above the depressed prices of a year earlier.

Cantaloups-- Total domestic acreage of cantaloups for spring harvest is about the same as in 1966, with increases in California and Texas offsetting declines in Arizona and Florida. However, with average yields, supplies may be up materially. Bad weather caused extensive losses last spring in Texas. Growing conditions have been favorable so far this season; harvest is underway in Florida,and volume supplies are expected from Texas and the Southwest during the last half of May. As usual, prices will be strongly influenced by timing of harvests in the various areas. Considerable harvest overlap occurred in 1966, resulting in relatively low returns.

Watermelons-- Acreage of watermelons for spring harvest is substantially smaller than in 1966, with reductions in both California and Florida. California growers have 17 percent fewer acres, and with average yields, production may be down sharply. Growers in Florida (where economic abandonment last spring was large) have 62,000 acres for harvest--7 percent fewer than in 1966. Harvest in the more southerly areas of the state is underway, with large supplies in prospect during May. Many fields in central and northern Florida were damaged by the February freeze. Because of replanting, much harvest overlap is likely as the season progresses.

Early reports point to a moderate reduction in summer watermelon acreage. With average yields, however, output would be larger than in 1966 when hot, dry weather resulted in substantial losses.

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

Market demand for processed vegetables was strong through the winter of 1967, resulting in heavy movement at relatively high prices. Disappearance of frozen vegetables probably was a record--sharply above last winter with a particularly large movement of corn, peas, and beans. Although supplies of many canned vegetables were relatively small, total use probably was close to that of a year earlier, and was slightly above average. Prices for frozen vegetables have been averaging a little above those of last season, while those for canned vegetables are record high.

Remaining supplies of canned vegetables, in total, appear to be down moderately from a year ago, and the smallest since 1961. The decline from last year is due to much smaller supplies of snap beans, kraut, peas, tomatoes, and most tomato products. Although below average, stocks of catsup, spinach, beets, and carrots are about the same as last year, and those of sweet corn, asparagus, and lima beans are larger. Pickles probably are the only vegetable in relatively heavy supply.

Total frozen vegetable supplies (excluding potatoes) on April 1 amounted to 870 million pounds, compared with 753 million a year earlier. Stocks of green peas were down substantially from the

record of a year ago, but supplies of all other major items were larger. Early packs of the cool weather crops--broccoli, brussels sprouts, cauliflower, and spinach --have been larger this season than last, and current supplies are up considerably over a year ago. Cold storage holdings of lima and snap beans are substantially larger, while stocks of asparagus, carrots, and sweet corn are up sharply.

Strong Markets Likely Into Summer

Except for a brief pause last summer, prices for canned vegetables have moved up steadily over the past 24 months. Concern about possible harvest labor shortages was mainly responsible for the first advance. Subsequent gains were related mostly to pack reductions because of bad weather, but inflation and heavier military purchases may have contributed to the increase. Wholesale prices for the major canned vegetables were about a tenth above 1957-59 average levels as this marketing season started, and in early April were nearly a fifth above average. Current prices for frozen vegetables also are relatively high, despite generally more abundant supplies.

Canned and frozen vegetable use during the rest of the season is expected to continue at a high rate. Carryover stocks of frozen vegetables into the 1967 packing season likely will be at least moderately above the low levels of a year earlier. Remaining stocks of canned vegetables probably will be light. As usual, little price change is anticipated until new pack supplies become available in late summer.

Prospective Acreage Up Moderately Over Last Year

Early reports point to large canned and frozen supplies next season. March and April intentions reports for 9 vegetables (which account for about 90 percent of the annual processing tonnage) indicated a moderately larger total acreage of these crops than last year (table 2). Canners reported a slight increase in intended green pea plantings, and moderately more acres in lima beans and tomatoes. Prospective acreage of snap beans, beets, and sweet corn is materially larger than in 1966. Kraut packers were planning to contract tonnage from an acreage more than a third larger than last year. Processing spinach plantings were up 7 percent this winter over last. Fewer acres were lost, yields were higher, and output was 13 percent above a year earlier. Freezers planned to have 2 percent more acres in snap beans, and 3 percent more in lima beans, sweet corn, and peas. Prospective acreage of cucumbers for pickling is up moderately from last year.

Recent average yields on the intended acreages would result in a total processing tonnage moderately above last year and record large. Production of canning crops and the canned pack would be approximately 15 percent above last year, with substantially more sweet corn, beets, pickling cucumbers, and lima beans, and sharp increases in all other vegetables. With expected carryovers, aggregate supplies of canned vegetables in 1967/68 would be at least a tenth larger than this season. Every commodity would be in relatively heavy supply.

Production of vegetables for freezing and the total frozen pack would be about the same as in 1966, with less sweet corn offsetting increases in other vegetables. With expected carryovers, supplies of sweet corn in the 1967/68 season would about match the record volume of the current season. Supplies of other frozen vegetables would be moderately larger than those available this season.

Prospects for Major Commodities

Snap Beans-- Total supplies of canned snap beans for the 1966/67 season were only 3 percent smaller than the record volume of last season. But with movement during the fall and winter exceptionally heavy, stocks on hand this spring are down nearly a fourth from those of a year earlier. While canners in all

Table 2.--Vegetables for commercial processing: Prospective plantings

Crop	Planted acreage			1967 as percentage of	
	Average 1961-65	1966	Prospective 1967	Average 1961-65	1966
	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	Percent	Percent
Beans, green lima					
Freezing	60	67	70	116	103
Canning	29	34	36	125	107
Beans, snap					
Freezing	51	66	67	131	102
Canning	163	199	217	133	109
Beets for canning	18	18	19	108	108
Cabbage for kraut, contract only	8	9	11	136	134
Corn, sweet					
Freezing	91	128	132	146	103
Canning	338	338	370	110	110
Cucumbers for pickles	116	144	151	131	105
Peas, green					
Freezing	162	162	167	103	103
Canning	278	313	318	115	102
Spinach, winter					
Freezing	4	6	6	136	106
Canning	5	5	5	103	107
Tomatoes	284	304	325	115	107
Total 9 crops 1/	1,605	1,793	1,894	118	106

1/ Does not include open market cabbage for kraut nor spring and fall spinach.
Vegetables - Processing; SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

areas have fewer beans than a year ago, supplies are particularly low in the East and Northwest.

Canners in both areas plan much larger packs this year. Intended acreage is up 12 percent over 1966 in the East and 21 percent in the West. Midwestern canners report their acreage may be 2 percent larger than last year. Although average output per acre in the Northwest likely will be less than in prior years because of the continuing shift from pole beans to the lower yielding bush beans, prospective production there--and in other regions--is up considerably. With the pack likely to be up sharply, total supplies of canned snap beans next season are expected to be about a tenth above those available this season, and will be the largest ever.

Although consumption of frozen snap beans has been heavy, fall and winter packs were larger this season than last, and current frozen bean stocks are materially above those of a year earlier. In early April, freezers in the East and Midwest

reported plans to contract for less acreage this year. With average yields, combined output in those areas would be a little smaller than last year. This decline may be more than offset by an increase in the West where prospective acreage is up sharply, and output may be up 6 percent. With both beginning stocks and pack expected to be larger, frozen supplies for the 1967/68 season likely will be a little above this season's record supplies.

Lima Beans-- Due to an increase in the 1966 pack, supplies of canned lima beans were larger this season than last. However, for the third consecutive year, the supply has been short of trade needs, resulting in strong markets with sales heavy and prices high. Carryover stocks are expected to again be nominal. Early April reports on processors' intentions indicate acreage for canning will be up moderately this year. With recent average yields, output would be up substantially. Canned lima bean supplies in 1967/68 may be as large as those available during the early 1960's, when trade reports indicated profitable marketing of this item was often difficult.

Frozen lima bean supplies, in total, were up slightly this season, due to an increased pack of baby limas. Movement so far has been slower than that of a year earlier, and April 1 cold storage holdings, at 71 million pounds were 12 percent above those of last April. Prospective acreage of the Fordhook variety (grown mostly in California) is 12 percent larger than last year. Plantings of baby limas may be down slightly. If the intended acreage is planted and yields are average, output for freezing would total a tenth larger than in 1966. With expected carryovers, supplies of both varieties in the 1967/68 season would be larger than this season. Supplies of Fordhooks would still be smaller than average, but those of baby limas would be relatively heavy.

Sauerkraut-- Because of extensive weather damage, cabbage production was small during the last half of 1966. The pack of kraut was down sharply, and supplies available for marketing in the 1966/67 season were the smallest in many years. With supplies tight and prices high, movement has been curtailed. Nevertheless, packers' stocks on April 1 of 3.2 million cases (basis 24/303's) were about one-third less than a year earlier. Carryover stocks in mid-summer likely will be nominal.

Intentions reports in early April indicated kraut packers' were planning to contract 34 percent more acres this year than last . With normal abandonment and average yields, contracted tonnage would be sharply above that in 1966. Open-market purchases of cabbage, which usually account for a third of the total cabbage tonnage used for kraut, cannot yet be determined. Such purchases were relatively small in 1966 because of high prices.

Sweet Corn-- Because of a much larger pack, total supplies of canned sweet corn this season were nearly a tenth larger than the short supply of last season, but were a fifth below the recent 5 year average. Markets were a little weak in early fall, but soon recovered. The larger supply has moved out faster than a year earlier, and though above those of last year, carryover stocks likely will again be relatively light. However, a big new pack appears likely. Canners are planning to contract 10 percent more acres than in 1966, with moderately more in the East and substantially more in both the Midwest and West. With normal abandonment and average yields, production on the intended acreage would be 8 percent larger than in 1966 Total supplies in the 1967/68 marketing season would be record large--at least a tenth above those of this season.

The 1966 frozen pack also was much larger than in 1965, resulting in a record seasonal supply. Although trade reports suggest some downward pressure on prices for a few grades or styles, prices overall have averaged relatively high. Disappearance for the season likely will be the most ever. Even so, the carryover will be much above that of a year earlier. April intentions point to 3 percent more acres for freezing this year than last, with an increase of 14 percent in the West offsetting 5 percent fewer acres in the Central

States and 8 percent fewer in the East. Assuming yields will be average (and well below the record of 1966), production would be moderately smaller than last year. Due to a probable larger carryover, however, frozen supplies in 1966/67 likely will be about the same as those available this season.

Spinach-- Because of a relatively small carryover and pack, canned spinach supplies were tight during the 1966/67 marketing season. Canners' carryover on March 1, 1967, amounted to 2.3 million cases (basis 24/303's)--only slightly above the light carryover of a year earlier. In contrast, the 1966 frozen pack was large, and March 1 holdings, at 52 million pounds, were 28 percent above those of a year earlier, and nearly a fifth above the 1961-65 average.

Winter season production for processing is expected to total 13 percent larger than last year. Because of less acreage, output in Florida was down moderately from the high level in 1966. But in California, which accounts for over half of the U.S. canned and frozen packs, estimated production is 17 percent larger than a year ago. Acreage is up substantially and yield prospects are better than in 1966. With relatively large packs likely, supplies of processed spinach into the fall packing season are expected to be considerably above year earlier levels. Frozen spinach supplies likely will be record large.

Green Peas-- Although substantially above average, supplies of frozen peas this season were a tenth smaller than the record volume available last season. Market demand has been strong, with prices averaging sharply above the depressed levels of a year ago, and movement down only a little. Remaining stocks on April 1 were 16 percent smaller than a year earlier. Disappearance of canned peas also has been heavy. Total canned supplies available for marketing during the 1966/67 season were down 7 percent from those of the previous season, and stocks in early April were materially smaller than a year earlier.

Processors have reported plans to increase acreage only a little in 1967. Intended acreage for the canning crop is up 2 percent, and that for freezing is up 3 percent. However, the apparent moderation is recognition that 1966 pea crops in several areas were heavily damaged by bad weather. With normal abandonment and average yields, 1967 production for freezing on the intended acreage would be 8 percent larger than in 1966 and output for canning would be up about a fifth. Both canned and frozen supplies in the 1967/68 seasons probably would be large relative to trade needs, with canned supplies especially heavy.

Tomatoes-- California's total 1966 pack of tomatoes and tomato products was nearly a fourth larger than a year earlier. But packs in the East and Midwest were down sharply, and carryover stocks were relatively light. So total U.S. supplies were about the same this season as last. Among individual items, supplies of catsup were about the same as a year earlier, and those of the concentrates--paste, sauce, and puree--were up considerably. However, supplies of both juice and peeled tomatoes were moderately smaller than those available last season, and materially below the recent 5-year average.

Markets for all items have been exceptionally strong. Prices were record high early in the season, and have since moved up. Although disappearance has been reduced somewhat because of high prices and moderate to tight supplies, the aggregate carryover in mid-1967 will be the smallest in many years.

Canners have reported plans to increase total acreage of tomatoes for processing 7 percent this year. In California, where nearly all of the crop is machine-harvested, intended acreage is up 9 percent. Substantial increases also are in prospect in nearly all major mid-western

States even though the use of mechanical harvesters in that area is still limited. Aggregate eastern acreage may be about unchanged from last year. With normal abandonment and average yields, production on the planned acreage would be materially above that in 1966, and slightly above the record tonnage in 1962. Supplies of all processed tomato items in the 1967/68 marketing season would be much larger than those of the current season. While the expected small carryovers might briefly cushion the impact of the indicated large output, considerable downward pressure on markets likely would develop, with prices for the season averaging sharply below the high levels of this season.

Beets-- The pack of canned beets during the summer-fall of 1966 was nearly a fifth larger than a year earlier. However, because of reduced carryover stocks and a relatively small 1967 winter pack, supplies this season are about the same as last season's. Markets have been strong, with prices averaging slightly above the high levels of a year earlier.

According to April intentions, acreage for canning will be 8 percent above last year and average, with all areas reporting increases. Assuming normal abandonment and recent average yields, tonnage would be 8 percent larger than in 1966. With expected carryover stocks about the same as a year earlier but the pack much larger, total supplies of canned beets in the 1967/68 season would be substantially above those of the current season.

Pickles-- Because of a big increase in output in 1966, supplies of cucumber pickles have been record large this season. Nevertheless, packers plan a 6 percent increase in total plantings this year with substantially more acres in the North and West offsetting a slight reduction in the South. Among northern states, intended acreage in Michigan is sharply above the low level in 1966, but is about average. A large increase over 1966 also appears likely in Wisconsin. Western States' acreage may be up 14 percent, mostly due to increases in Colorado and California. Intended acreage is off sharply in Texas, but the same or larger than a year ago in other leading Southern States.

With recent average yields, production of cucumbers for pickling would be substantially above last year. Since carryover stocks are expected to be larger, total supplies in 1967/68 likely will be materially above this season's record supply.

POTATOES

Supplies of potatoes in the early winter of 1967 totaled about the same as the record supply of a year earlier. Although 1966 fall-crop production was moderately larger than in 1965, disappearance during the fall was heavier this season. Therefore, storage holdings on January 1, at 124.9 million hundredweight, were a shade smaller than a year earlier. Winter production, at 4.7 million hundredweight, was 8 percent smaller than in 1966. Florida growers had a large crop, but output in California was down sharply due to less acreage and poor growing conditions. The reduction in raw potato supplies was about offset by much larger holdings of frozen and dehydrated potatoes.

Despite little difference in total supply, prices into mid-winter averaged substantially higher than a year earlier. The strong market apparently was due largely to prospects of continued heavy storage losses in Idaho where a freeze during harvest caused much damage. However, the relatively high prices also may have been associated with expectations that the late market for storage potatoes this season would follow the pattern of recent years--characterized by intensive processor activity, rapid disappearance, and prices moving up to high levels.

Disappearance did remain heavy in Idaho, but was off sharply from a year earlier in the Midwest and East where quality of the storage stocks was better this year than last. Winter movement of

potatoes in the latter areas also was smaller because harsh weather occasionally hampered marketing, and a large Canadian supply offered greater competition. Potato processors were faced with record large inventories, slipping prices for their products, and abundant supplies of raw potatoes under contract. So they offered lower prices and bought fewer potatoes on the open market, and curtailed plant operations. With U.S. supplies close to those of a year earlier but market demand much weaker, prices declined substantially in late winter. Although prices were under pressure in all areas, markets were particularly weak in the East where remaining stocks were the largest in several years.

Spring Prospects

Supplies of potatoes this spring probably will total a little smaller than the burdensome supplies of last spring. Primarily because of curtailed use by food processors, remaining supplies of storage potatoes probably are above the large stocks of a year ago. As in recent months, there likely are many more potatoes in storage in the East, but fewer in the Midwest and West. Supplies of processed potatoes also are up sharply. April 1 cold storage holding of frozen french fries amounted to 504 million pounds, 9 percent above a year earlier.

Prospective new-crop supplies are down from last year. Production of early-spring potatoes, at 3.2 million hundredweight, is more than a third smaller than in 1966, and 28 percent below the 1961-65 average. The decline is due to a short crop in Florida where a winter freeze and subsequent dry weather resulted in heavy acreage losses. Spring output in south Texas is up sharply from 1966 as a result of more acreage and expected better yields. Production estimates are not yet available for important late-spring crop, but total acreage is down 8 percent from last year, with decreases reported in nearly all States. Acreage in California, which typically furnishes two-thirds of the late spring tonnage, is down 4 percent. Arizona acreage is down 12 percent, and that in Texas is off a fifth. Among the leading Eastern areas, Baldwin County in Alabama has a tenth fewer acres; North Carolina has 8 percent less. Crops in all areas made good early growth, but by late April dry weather was a problem in the East. However, assuming average yields are attained, late-spring production in 1967 would be materially smaller than in 1966, but about the same as the recent 5-year average.

With relatively large stocks still on hand and the significantly weaker market demand, prices for storage potatoes are expected to remain under heavy pressure during most of the spring season. Markets for new-crop potatoes probably also will be adversely affected by large old-crop supplies. However, a strong demand for chip stock may ease pressures somewhat in the East. Chippers use a large portion of Florida's spring potatoes. With that crop likely to be short this year, buying interest in other areas probably will be stimulated.

Summer - Fall Prospects

In early February, growers of potatoes for early summer harvest reported intentions to plant a moderately smaller total acreage than in 1966. Acreage in California, which has been declining for nearly a decade, may be down 6 percent. Growers in Texas plan a moderate reduction from their relatively large 1966 acreage. In the East, intentions point to a continued gradual decline in potato production in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky where much of the crop is used on the farm. But growers in the important commercial sales areas, primarily Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Virginia, expect to plant the same acreage this year as last.

March intentions reports indicated growers of potatoes for late summer and fall harvest were planning to plant 1.2 million acres in 1967, 2 percent fewer than last year (table 3). Prospective acreage is about the same as last year in the East, with an increase of 3 percent in Maine about offset by slight to moderate

decreases in all other leading eastern areas.

Intended total acreage in the central region is down moderately from 1966 with growers in most States expecting to plant less. Producers in both Michigan and Wisconsin reported prospective decreases of 5 percent. Acreage may be down 7 percent in Minnesota, and 4 percent in North Dakota.

Potato growers in Washington reported intentions to plant 17 percent more acres this year, while growers in Malheur County, Oregon reported plans for 31 percent more. Both increases are mainly associated with expectations of more potato processing in these areas. Although Idaho is the leading producer for processing use, growers in that State intend to decrease acreage 5 percent. (Idaho growers' returns for their 1966 crop are off sharply due to generally low quality.) Slight to moderate reductions also were reported for other Western States, and total regional acreage may be slightly smaller than last year.

Heavy Supply Likely

If potato growers hold to their plans and average yields are obtained, 1967 summer-fall potato production would be moderately smaller than the record tonnage harvested in 1966. Even so, assuming normal crop quality, prices likely would average below the high levels of a year earlier. Potato markets in late 1966 were greatly strengthened by indications of losses in Idaho.

SWEETPOTATOES

Supply Relatively Light, Prices High

Because of a reduced production in 1966, supplies of sweetpotatoes have been relatively light this marketing season. Unload data show that weekly movement into the major terminals has been running well below year earlier levels, and cumulative volume through mid-April was about a tenth smaller than a year ago. Markets have been strong. U.S. prices to growers averaged $5.85 per hundredweight during March compared with a low $4.87 in March 1966. With only limited supplies remaining--mostly in Louisiana, California, and North Carolina--markets are expected to continue strong through the spring.

Small Acreage Indicated

Despite the high prices received for 1966-crop sweetpotatoes, growers have reported intentions to plant fewer acres in 1967. Prospective U.S. plantings, at 180,000 acres, are 6 percent less than last year, and the smallest of record. Among the leading producing States, only Louisiana and Georgia farmers indicated that their planted acreage likely would be as large this year as last. Growers in Virginia, Alabama and Texas plan moderate reductions, while substantial decreases of 10 to 15 percent are in prospect for Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Mississippi. California growers expect to have nearly a tenth fewer acres compared to 1966. In New Jersey, where income from sweetpotatoes has been adversely affected by low yields or depressed prices for the last 3 crops, producers plan to reduce acreage sharply.

Market Prospects for the 1967-68 Season

With average yields, the intended acreage would result in a 1967 production of 16.2 million hundredweight. This would be 1 percent smaller than in 1966, but 6 percent above the short output in 1964. If the indicated supply is realized, strong markets and relatively high prices will prevail during the 1967-68 season.

Table 3.--Potatoes, late summer and fall: Prospective plantings

Crop and area	Acreage planted			1967 as percentage of 1966
	1961-65 average	1966	Prospective 1967 1/	
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Late summer and fall				
Maine	147.2	158.0	163.0	103
New York-Long Island	39.4	39.5	38.5	97
-Upstate	42.6	41.0	40.0	98
Pennsylvania	39.0	39.0	38.0	97
Other States 2/	55.2	54.8	52.3	95
Eastern	323.4	332.3	331.8	100
Michigan	48.5	51.2	48.8	95
Wisconsin	56.4	61.0	58.0	95
Minnesota	114.6	105.0	97.9	93
North Dakota	117.2	110.0	106.0	96
Other States 3/	46.4	45.2	42.9	95
Central	383.1	372.4	353.6	95
Idaho	263.8	320.0	304.0	95
Colorado	53.3	45.1	43.3	96
Washington	40.9	58.0	68.0	117
Oregon	37.1	41.5	44.4	107
California	33.0	37.8	37.0	98
Other States 4/	25.2	24.2	23.4	97
Western	453.3	526.6	520.1	99
Total late summer and fall	1,159.6	1,231.3	1,205.5	97.9

1/ Intended acreage as of March 1.
2/ New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina.
3/ Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Illinois.
4/ Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and New Mexico.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

Supplies Relatively Large, Prices Low

Due to a record large production in 1966, supplies of dry edible beans for the 1966/67 marketing season were sharply above the light supplies of the previous season. With lower prices and many more beans available, disappearance so far this season has been running well above year earlier rates. Domestic use appears to be up considerably, with expanded commercial sales supplemented by relatively large quantities being moved under USDA distribution programs. Through mid-April, USDA had purchased 64 million pounds of beans, mostly pea and pintos, for donation to welfare outlets and use in the school lunch program. Movement overseas also has been sharply above that of last year. Exports from September 1 through February amounted to 2.7 million hundredweight, about double the quantity that moved during the same period a year earlier, and moderately more than the total volume exported last season.

Despite the increase in domestic and foreign use, supplies of all major classes of white and colored beans remain sharply above year earlier levels, and heavy relative to trade needs. Markets continue under pressure, with prices the lowest in several years. Although f.o.b. prices for many of the major classes moved up a little during the winter, prices in mid-April still were much below those of a year ago. Lima beans are the only varieties selling at relatively high prices. Output of both baby and large limas was below average in 1966, and current stocks are light.

Price Support Activity

With prices for nearly all classes under pressure from heavy supplies, growers have made extensive use of the price support program this season. Through March 31, 3.4 million hundredweight of dry beans had been put under loan. Loan data by class are not currently available. However, 56 percent of the quantity under loan was in Michigan where pea and red kidney bean supplies are large. Program use also was heavy in the great northern and pinto producing States of Nebraska, Colorado, and Idaho, and in Washington where small red bean output was large.

Loans matured on April 30 in Michigan and New York, but will not mature until June 30 in all other States. Therefore, the volume of beans that will be delivered to CCC cannot yet be determined. Nevertheless, deliveries are expected to be relatively large.

Acreage Decrease Indicated

Growers in early March reported intentions to plant 1,449,000 acres of dry edible beans this year, 7 percent less than in 1966, and slightly below the 1961-65 average. Prospective acreage is the same as last year in Kansas and Utah, and substantially larger in the Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota. Smaller acreages are indicated in all other States.

Prospective acreage in Michigan where most of the pea beans are grown, is down 6 percent from the high level in 1966. Growers in New York, who mainly plant red kidney and black turtle soup beans, plan a 3 percent smaller acreage.

Dry bean plantings in Colorado, the leading pinto producing State, may be down only slightly from 1966. However, large decreases are in prospect in the Northwest where most of the acreage is in great northern and pinto beans. Growers in Nebraska reported intentions to plant 5 percent fewer acres, those in Wyoming plan a cutback of 11 percent and Idaho farmers expect to plant 18 percent less. Producers in Washington, where small red, pink, and pinto beans are important, intend to reduce their bean acreage about a third this year.

Probably in response to high prices for recent crops of lima beans, California growers plan moderate increase in plantings of that class this year. Plantings of other classes may be reduced materially,

however, and the States' total prospective dry bean acreage is down 8 percent from last year.

Supply Prospects for 1967/68 Season

Current stocks of dry beans are much larger than the light supplies of a year earlier, and materially above the 1961-65 average. With supplies ample and prices likely to average low, movement during the remainder of the current season is expected to be considerably larger than that of last season. Commercial sales to both domestic and foreign outlets likely will continue above year earlier levels, and important quantities probably will be moved through various governmental distribution programs. Despite prospects for much greater use, a big carryover at the end of this season appears likely. Ending stocks of both white and colored beans are expected to be up sharply from both a year earlier and average.

If the intended acreage is planted and average yields are attained, dry edible bean production in 1967 would amount to 19.6 million hundredweight, 4 percent smaller than the record output in 1966. However, since carryover stocks will be relatively large, total bean supplies for the 1967/68 season would be above the heavy volume available this season, with supplies of both white and colored classes larger. The projected supply would exceed anticipated market needs, with consequent market pressure and a low average level of prices.

DRY FIELD PEAS

Supplies Down From Last Season; Prices Higher

Supplies of dry field peas available for marketing during the 1966/67 season were considerably smaller than the large supply of the previous season. Beginning stocks were much below those of a year earlier. And production in 1966, at 3.7 million hundredweight, was down nearly a tenth from that harvested in 1965.

U.S. prices to growers during the first portion of the current marketing season averaged moderately above year earlier levels, mainly due to sharply higher prices for tight supplies of yellow peas. Although supplies of green peas were below the burdensome levels of recent years, prices for those varieties were under some pressure because of a slow export trade. However, foreign demand strengthened during the winter, export volume was relatively large, and prices moved up. Prices to growers during March averaged $4.83 per hundredweight compared with $4.23 in March 1966, and were the highest for the month since 1959.

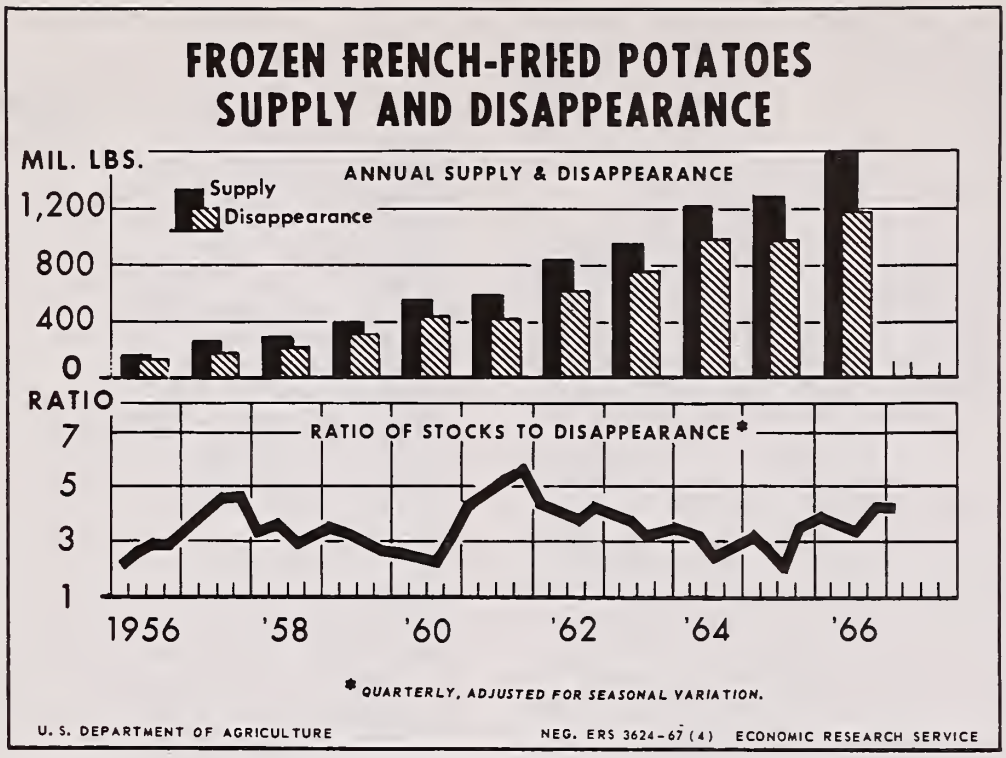
During the remaining months of this season, movement of dry peas may be smaller than in the similiar period last season, due to much tighter supplies. But with overall demand for peas probably at least as strong as a year ago, prices are expected to continue relatively high.

Acreage Increase Planned

Growers in early March reported intentions to plant 261,000 acres of dry peas this year, 4 percent more than in 1966. Idaho accounts for most of the indicated increase; growers in that State intend to plant 12,000 more acres than last year--an increase of 12 percent. Farmers in Minnesota plan an increase of 1,000 acres, but those in North Dakota may make no change from 1966. Prospective acreage is down slightly in Washington, and a tenth in Oregon. If growers hold to their intentions and yields are average, dry pea production in 1967 would amount to 4.3 million hundredweight, 16 percent larger than in 1966.

Little Change Indicated in Supply

Although production this year may be materially larger than in 1966, supplies for the 1967/68 marketing season likely would be close to those available this season since carryover stocks this summer will be small. With domestic use apparently holding about steady and foreign demand for U.S. peas trending up, supplies next season in line with current projections likely would result in relatively strong markets.



Production of frozen potato products in 1966 was a record 1.5 billion pounds, up a fifth from a year earlier. Data compiled by the National Association of Frozen Food Packers show that most of the increase was due to expanded output of french fries (which accounted for nearly 90 percent of the pack).

The uptrend in frozen potato use continued last year. Consumption per person was 6.9 pounds, compared with 5.7 pounds in 1965. Total disappearance, at 1.3 billion pounds, was up 22 percent.

Despite consistent gains in consumption over the past decade, the processed potato industry has periodically suffered from excess plant capacity. Operations were sharply curtailed during the 1957/58 season and a longer period of depression ran from the winter of 1961 into late 1963.

Recent developments suggest that the industry has moved into another period of marketing difficulties. Strong markets for processed potatoes in 1964 and 1965 stimulated new plant construction and expansion of existing facilities. As a result, productive capacity apparently again is above that needed at current levels of consumer demand.

Although operations of many individual plants during the 1966/67 packing season have been below year earlier levels, industry output probably has exceeded that of the previous season. Inventories have increased greatly, and in first quarter of 1967 were more than 4 times larger than disappearance.

In the past, when processed potato stocks held at such a high level, the market for all potatoes was relatively weak. Although other economic forces delayed the reaction this season, the price decline of recent months appears to be closely associated with the change in the processing market situation.

Table 4.--Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (l.c.l. sales) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods, 1966 and 1967

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	Tuesday nearest mid-month					
			1966		1967			
			Mar. 15	Apr. 12	Jan. 17	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18
			Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
New York:								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	9.25	4.25	6.25	5.25	5.50	5.00
Beets, bunched	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt. 3 doz.	3.75	3.75	4.75	4.90	3.25	4.25
Broccoli, bunched	California	14's crt.	4.25	3.25	4.40	3.75	3.25	--
Cabbage, Domestic								
Round type	Florida	1-3/4 bu. crt.	5.25	2.65	3.62½	3.25	2.65	3.25
Carrots:								
Topped, washed	California	48-1 lb. film bag, crt.	5.60	5.50	4.90	4.90	4.15	4.65
Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	3.75	4.50	--	3.25	3.00	--
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd., 12's	5.00	4.25	6.25	3.60	4.75	4.90
Celery:								
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	5.65	4.00	4.50	5.25	4.50	4.00
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt. 2-4 doz.	4.65	2.85	3.25	3.50	3.35	3.35
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	5.50	5.25	5.25	4.75	4.75	4.00
Cucumbers	Florida	Bu. bskt.	9.00	6.25	8.75	10.00	14.00	6.50
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. crt.	4.75	4.35	3.50	2.65	3.35	6.75
Onions:								
Yellow medium	New York	50-lb. sack	1.55	2.25	3.62½	3.65	3.20	3.00
Yellow, Granex, med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	--	--	--	--	--	3.20
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., lge.	5.50	--	4.50	5.75	4.75	--
Spinach, Savoy	Texas	Bu. bskt.	2.75	--	2.75	2.65	3.75	2.62½
Chicago:								
Beans, snap, green, Harvesters	Florida	Bu. hamper and crt.	8.50	5.00	6.40	5.25	6.25	5.50
Beets, bunched	Texas	36-bchs.	3.25	3.60	--	3.85	4.00	3.50
Broccoli	California	14's, ½ crate	3.50	3.25	4.75	3.50	3.15	4.25
Cabbage, Domestic								
Round type	Texas	1-3/4 bu. crt.	4.25	2.50	4.35	2.75	3.00	3.40
Carrots, Topped, washed	Texas	48-1 lb. film bag, mesh master	4.00	4.25	3.50	3.15	2.85	3.40
Cauliflower	California	Ctn. film wrpd. 12's	4.50	3.90	5.00	3.15	3.75	3.85
Celery:								
Pascal	California	16-in. crt. 2-3 doz.	5.45	3.60	3.85	3.85	4.25	4.45
Pascal	Florida	16-in. crt. 2-4 doz.	4.65	3.00	3.25	3.35	3.25	3.50
Corn, green (yellow)	Florida	5 doz. crt.	6.00	5.00	5.15	4.25	4.90	4.50
Lettuce, Iceberg type	Arizona	2 doz. head ctn.	4.00	4.90	3.60	2.35	3.15	5.50
Onions:								
Yellow, Granex, med.	Texas	50-lb. sack	--	--	--	--	--	2.70
Yellow, medium	Midwestern	50-lb. sack	1.25	2.50	3.60	3.85	2.85	--
Peppers, green	Florida	Bu. bskt., large	5.00	7.75	4.25	5.75	5.25	10.50

Weekly summary of terminal market prices, Market News Reports, C&MS, USDA.

Table 5.--Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings and indicated disappearance, January 1 to April 1

Commodity	April 1 stocks			January 1-April 1 net change		
	1961-65 average	1966	1967 1/	1961-65 average	1966	1967 1/
	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.	Mil. lbs.
Asparagus	10	8	11	-8	-7	-7
Beans, lima:						
Fordhook	39	26	30	-15	-17	-13
Baby	46	38	42	-18	-21	-26
Total	85	64	72	-33	-38	-39
Beans, snap:						
Regular cut	53	52	56	-33	-40	-37
French style	27	23	28	-17	-17	-16
Total	80	75	84	-50	-57	-53
Broccoli	47	39	53	-8	-6	-2
Brussels sprouts	23	22	33	-9	-7	-4
Carrots	38	41	55	-12	-10	-19
Cauliflower	20	22	24	-8	-9	-7
Corn, sweet	87	93	126	-48	-58	-95
Peas and carrots	15	15	14	-1	-1	-2
Peas, green	119	152	128	-85	-102	-90
Spinach	44	41	52	-8	-9	-2
Mixed vegetables	27	30	33	+2	-1	-3
Other vegetables	120	151	185	-22	-35	-3
Total vegetables	715	753	870	-289	-340	-326
Potatoes, French fried	285	464	504	+90	+150	+105
Grand total	1,000	1,217	1,374	-199	-190	-221

1/ Preliminary. n.a. - not available.
Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 6.--Vegetables, fresh: Average f.o.b. shipping point prices per hundredweight, United States, indicated periods, 1966 and 1967

Commodity	1966		1967		
	February 15	March 15	January 15	February 15	March 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus	62.20	37.70	---	50.00	36.20
Beans, snap	19.60	19.00	12.70	10.30	11.50
Broccoli	14.60	11.60	13.30	13.70	11.90
Cabbage	5.00	3.65	4.65	3.30	3.00
Carrots	5.80	5.20	4.35	3.90	4.05
Cauliflower	12.90	11.40	13.80	11.20	10.80
Celery	6.20	5.30	3.55	3.85	3.75
Corn, sweet	8.40	9.10	8.10	7.70	8.30
Cucumbers	11.50	11.50	8.30	12.80	13.60
Lettuce	7.20	6.60	4.00	2.60	4.25
Onions	2.75	2.50	6.20	6.60	5.60
Peppers, green	16.80	10.40	13.40	11.90	12.20
Spinach	10.80	9.50	12.60	13.60	9.00
Tomatoes	12.20	10.30	8.60	11.00	9.70

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 7.--Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1965 and 1966 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1966 and 1967, by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
			Canners			Wholesale distributors 1/		
	1965	1966	Date	1966	1967	Date	1966	1967
	1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's		1,000 cases 24/303's	1,000 cases 24/303's
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	45,627	40,536	Mar. 1	17,944	13,973	Jan. 1	3,668	3,831
Beets 3/	8,603	10,180	Jan. 1	6,427	6,443	Jan. 1	1,240	1,194
Corn, sweet	39,116	45,525	Mar. 1	13,356	14,596	Jan. 1	4,836	4,893
Peas, green	37,585	31,856	Mar. 1	12,784	10,814	Jan. 1	3,634	3,671
Sauerkraut	15,744	11,747	Mar. 1	5,691	3,900	Jan. 1	852	901
Total	146,675	139,844		56,202	49,726		14,230	14,490
Tomato items								
Tomatoes	36,015	32,662	Jan. 1	20,205	17,321	Jan. 1	4,085	4,024
Tomato juice 4/	40,047	38,907	Jan. 1	27,885	26,144	Jan. 1	2,739	2,497
Tomato catsup and chili sauce	35,629	37,448	Jan. 1	25,303	25,170	Jan. 1	2,675	2,713
Tomato pulp and puree	6,484	7,349	Jan. 1	5/3,758	5/3,211	Jan. 1	n.a.	n.a.
Total	118,175	116,366		77,151	71,846		9,499	9,234
Other commodities								
Asparagus	7,208	7,794	Mar. 1	1,232	1,598	Jan. 1	708	692
Beans, lima	2,981	3,531	Mar. 1	659	1,182	Jan. 1	654	647
Field peas	1,835	2,479						
Carrots 3/	3,349	4,671	Jan. 1	2,528	2,558	Jan. 1	673	724
Okra 6/	844	667						
Pickles	2/37,007	2/44,142						
Pimientos	827	675						
Pumpkin and squash	3,854	4,553						
Potatoes	5,028	n.a.						
Sweetpotatoes	11,101	n.a.						
Spinach	6,395	6,954	Mar. 1	2,214	2,271	Jan. 1	755	697
Other greens	2,651	2,930						
Vegetables, mixed	6,141	6,068						
Total comparable other items	73,092	84,464		6,633	7,609		2,790	2,760
Grand total comparable items	337,942	340,674		139,986	129,181		26,519	26,484

1/ Converted from actual cases to standard cases of 24 No. 303 cans.
2/ Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 83 and sauerkraut 65.9 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh).
3/ Pack to January 1.
4/ Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice.
5/ California only.
6/ Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes.
n.a. - not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Canners Association, unless otherwise noted. Wholesale distributors' stock from United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

Table 8.--Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, as of 15th of the month, United States by months, averages 1935-39, 1947-49, 1950-54, and 1955 to date 1/ (1910-14=100)

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1935-39	114	121	133	130	125	98	87	82	81	90	103	115	107
1947-49	288	305	310	308	277	215	207	196	193	204	241	246	249
1950-54	283	264	253	293	265	242	232	202	183	202	248	268	245
Year													
1955	251	273	260	272	254	220	206	210	226	219	245	230	239
1956	246	276	271	246	262	291	264	202	184	215	281	267	250
1957	241	237	238	271	285	281	269	233	200	213	217	246	244
1958	322	369	414	352	292	227	195	171	188	214	251	232	269
1959	295	301	288	291	271	233	229	214	244	265	275	303	267
1960	314	301	277	280	281	236	245	201	196	215	232	242	252
1961	233	234	241	300	266	290	259	208	210	213	247	237	245
1962	305	327	398	345	343	269	235	205	207	214	239	272	288
1963	324	298	258	264	247	285	274	210	200	225	290	297	264
1964	318	327	312	282	264	289	258	247	248	256	332	285	285
1965	266	273	320	339	387	330	277	251	255	278	294	293	297
1966	336	373	344	376	340	325	361	366	305	290	347	327	341
1967 2/	329	335	330										

1/ The index for commercial fresh market vegetables was revised, beginning January 1958, to reflect changes in the method of reporting prices. All prices now are reported on a f.o.b. basis.
2/ Preliminary.
Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 9.--Potatoes: Acreage and prospective plantings for 1967 season, with comparisons

Seasonal group	Acreage 1961-65 average	Yield per harvested acre 1961-65 average	Acreage 1966	Acreage 1967	1967 as percentage of 1966
	1,000 acres	Cwt.	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Acreage harvested:					
Winter	20.6	197	25.5	24.6	96.5
Early spring	28.1	159	35.6	30.4	85.4
Late spring	114.8	207	124.2	114.4	92.1
Total	163.5	--	185.3	169.4	91.4
Prospective plantings:					
Early summer 1/	87.9	--	89.4	86.0	96.2
Late summer and fall 2/	1,159.6	--	1,231.3	1,205.5	97.9
Total	1,247.5	--	1,320.7	1,291.5	97.8
Alaska, late summer and fall	--	--	.73	.71	97.3
Total	1,247.5	--	1,321.4	1,292.2	97.8

1/ Intended acreage for 1967 as of February 1. 2/ Intended acreage for 1967 as of March 1.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 10.--Potatoes, winter and spring: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, average 1961-65, 1966 and indicated 1967 1/

Seasonal group	Harvested acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Average 1961-65	1966	Indicated 1967	Average 1961-65	1966	Indicated 1967	Average 1961-65	1966	Indicated 1967
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Winter	20.6	25.5	24.6	197	199	194	4,069	5,084	4,763
Early spring	28.1	35.6	30.4	159	138	106	4,454	4,924	3,211
Late spring	114.8	124.2	114.4	207	217	--	23,735	26,956	--

1/ This acreage and production is later included in reports of total potatoes.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11.--Sweetpotatoes: Plantings, average 1961-65, annual 1966 and indicated 1967

Area	Acreage			
	Average 1961-65	1966	Indicated 1967 1/	1967 as percentage of 1966
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Central Atlantic 2/	36.2	33.2	29.8	90
South Atlantic 3/	47.5	42.7	39.7	93
South Central 4/	111.0	104.5	100.4	96
North Central 5/	2.6	2.7	2.7	100
California	8.8	8.2	7.5	91
United States	206.2	191.3	180.1	94.1

1/ Indications as of March 1. 2/ New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. 3/ North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. 4/ Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. 5/ Missouri and Kansas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 12.--Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, at terminal markets and to growers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1966 and 1967

Item	Week ended						
	1966			1967			
	Feb. 12	Mar. 12	Apr. 16	Jan. 14	Feb. 11	Mar. 18	Apr. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points:							
New stock							
Florida, Dade County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Reds 1/	--	4.50	6.50	--	--	4.50	3.56
Old stock							
Colorado, San Luis Valley							
Red McClures 2/	2.38	2.22	2.20	3.06	2.85	2.71	2.25
Idaho, Idaho Falls							
Russets 3/	3.89	4.14	5.26	5.20	4.06	3.36	3.47
Maine, Aroostook County							
U.S. No. 1, Size A, Round Whites 1/4/	2.24	2.40	3.48	2.64	2.10	1.68	1.26
New York, Upstate							
Katahdin 1/	3.24	3.24	4.28	3.04	2.84	2.72	2.52
Michigan							
Round Whites 1/	2.84	2.90	--	2.88	2.70	--	--
	Tuesday nearest mid-month						
	1966			1967			
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12	Jan. 17	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal markets:							
New York:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds 1/5/	--	6.00	--	--	--	6.75	5.70
Old stock							
Long Island, various Round Whites 1/5/	3.30	3.60	--	3.65	3.30	2.90	2.00
Maine, Katahdin 1/4/5/	3.50	3.70	4.50	3.85	3.40	3.40	2.55
Idaho, Russets 1/5/	5.40	5.50	5.50	6.75	6.75	6.25	5.16
Chicago:							
New stock							
Florida, Round Reds 1/5/6/	7.10	6.00	7.50	--	7.50	6.30	5.10
Old stock							
Idaho, Russets 5/6/	4.75	4.85	5.00	6.50	5.50	4.75	4.50
Minnesota-North Dakota							
Round Reds 5/6/	3.40	3.60	3.35	4.25	4.00	3.85	2.85
	Month						
	1966			1967			
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
U.S. price received by growers	2.17	2.37	2.62	2.36	2.37	2.09	n.a.
U.S. average parity price	2.73	2.75	2.77	2.83	2.82	2.83	n.a.

1/ 50 pound price doubled.
2/ 2-inch up, washed.
3/ 10-oz. minimum.
4/ 2-inch minimum.
5/ U.S. No. 1, Size A
6/ Street sales.
n.a. - not available.

F.o.b. prices are the simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Terminal market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 13.--Sweetpotatoes: F.o.b. prices at Louisiana and New Jersey points and terminal market prices at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods, 1966 and 1967

Location and variety	Unit	Week ended						
		1966			1967			
		Feb. 12	Mar. 12	Apr. 16	Jan. 14	Feb. 11	Mar. 18	Apr. 15
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
F.o.b. shipping points								
S.W. Louisiana points								
Porto Rico, U.S. No. 1, cured	50 pound crate	3.22	3.18	3.05	4.50	4.50	4.94	4.92
New Jersey, orange Jersey type	Bushel basket	2.50	2.50	2.50	3.65	--	3.62	3.72
		Tuesday nearest mid-month						
		1966			1967			
		Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 12	Jan. 17	Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Apr. 18
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Terminal markets								
New York:								
New Jersey, orange Jersey type	Bushel basket	3.20	3.12½	2.90	4.12½	4.12½	4.20	4.25
North Carolina Porto Rico type	Bushel basket	3.85	3.65	3.65	5.10	5.37½	5.40	5.50
Chicago:								
Louisiana, Porto Rico, cured	50 pound crate	3.75	3.75	3.65	5.00	5.35	5.50	5.75

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the mid-point of the range of daily prices. Market prices are for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by Market News representatives to the Fruit and Vegetable Division of C&MS.

Table 14.--Average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, United States, indicated periods, 1966 and 1967

Commodity	1966		1967		
	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Field crops:					
Sweetpotatoes	4.73	4.87	5.46	5.72	5.85
Beans, dry edible	9.32	8.63	6.76	7.40	6.84
Peas, dry field	4.39	4.23	4.75	4.85	4.83

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 15--Beans, dry edible: Prospective plantings for 1967 season, with comparisons 1/

Group of States	Acreage planted			
	1961-65 average	1966	Indicated 1967 2/	1967 as percentage of 1966
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
New York	96	105	102	97
Michigan	608	652	613	94
Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington	275	293	249	85
Minnesota and North Dakota	3/	28	32	114
Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah	249	251	245	98
California	217	226	208	92
United States	1,462	1,555	1,449	93.2

1/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed. 2/ Indications as of March 1.
3/ Not available.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 16.--Peas, dry field: Prospective plantings for 1967 season, with comparisons 1/

State	Acreage planted			
	1961-65 average	1966	Indicated 1967 2/	1967 as percentage of 1966
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Minnesota	12	9	10	111
North Dakota	8	5	5	100
Idaho	113	101	113	112
Washington	163	126	123	98
Oregon	15	11	10	91
United States	319	252	261	103.6

1/ In principal commercial producing States. 2/ Indications as of March 1.
Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

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